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9 October 1959

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Current Exchange Proposals of Interest to ORR

NOTE : The exchange proposals referred to below are not active exchanges but only potential exchanges which may or may not develop. St/I/R's comments on these proposals are very tentative and represent only the initial staffing procedures.

1. Ornithological Exchange: ORR's preliminary comments were requested by the Special Exchange Staff, OO/C, on the Soviet proposal addressed to the American Ornithology Union for an exchange of students, in this field.

ORA at the request of St/I/R prepared a list of the geographic areas where zapovedniki (wild life sanctuaries) were located and expressed an apparent geographic interest in the proposed exchange. I/GM likewise expressed interest due to the geographic areas involved. St/I/R subsequently informed the Special Exchange Staff of ORR's interest in this exchange and indicated that we would propose an itinerary at the appropriate time. It was suggested also that the exchange involve experts rather than students in order that field trips could be requested more reasonably. (31 August 1959)

2. Sewing Machine Exchange: The Special Exchange Staff, OO/C, requested a preliminary opinion from ORR regarding a Sewing Machine Exchange proposed by Singer. According to OO/C the Soviets have agreed in principle to such an exchange.

St/I/R checked with the specialist in I/MS and procured a list of sewing machines plants and their locations in the USSR. Interest in sewing machine production per se is negligible but it was found that these plants may be engaged in production of GM components and also items of possible interest to I/PE.

On this basis, St/I/R informed the Special Exchange Staff that ORR has a definite interest in this exchange and would prepare a proposed itinerary upon request. (28 September 1959)

3. City Planning Exchange: EWC (State) requested ORR through the Special Exchange Staff, OO/C, for a rapid opinion on an exchange of city planners, proposed by Mr. O'Harrow, President of the American Council of City Planners. The Soviets were to visit New York, Cleveland, Chicago, Washington, St. Louis and Minneapolis.

St/I/R contacted the specialists in S/TR, S/CST and D/CG/S and found considerable interest, especially in D/CG/S which prepares City Briefs on the USSR [REDACTED]

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St/I/R informed the Special Exchange Staff that GRR had a definite interest in said exchange proposal and would propose an itinerary when appropriate.

Subsequently, Ch/G was requested by the Special Exchange Staff to prepare a more detailed answer including cities of interest etc. D/GG/S is in the process of preparing a memorandum on this subject which will be forwarded through St/I/R to [REDACTED] shortly. (6 October 1959)

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[REDACTED] St/I/R/F

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